



# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

( LATHHOUSE NUMBER )

Rosecroft Opening  
Escallonias  
Fall Show, Sept. 8-9  
(Civic Auditorium)

AUG. 1923

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# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association  
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

Vol. 15

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, AUG., 1923

No. 2

## FLORAL ASSOCIATION OPENS ROSECROFT LATHHOUSE

The San Diego Floral Association and its friends will remember most vividly and pleasantly "August 7th", the day that they were so royally entertained at Rosecroft, Pt. Loma, the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Robinson, the occasion being the formal opening of Mr. Robinson's beautiful and spacious lathhouse for this year's first inspection and which he so generously invites the public to enjoy on Wednesdays and Sundays, from ten to four, during August and September.

Never before has this display been so fine; the tree-like begonias are taller, the low, fibrous varieties more bushy, their inflorescence more bountiful, the hanging-basket, tuberous begonias more wonderful and in greater quantity and variety of shape and color, and the Rex begonias, as their name implies (the King), more magnificent in size, color, variety and vigor than ever before.

The wizard of the lathhouse, in producing new varieties, variations in color and shape and texture of foliage, length of stem and size of leaf and flower, is not Mr. Robinson, as most visitors probably think, but all credit is due to the busy bee, the fairy butterfly and the night-flying moth; all and each fluttering from flower to flower, seeking their necessary food from the beautiful blooms and scattering the pollen from one flower to the pistil of another, and thoroughly mixing every sort, hither and yon, all over the house, in a way no human hand could do.

Mr. David Fairchild, at the head of the United States Government horticultural work in the Bureau of New Plant Introductions, said (on his visit to the lathhouse two years ago) to Mr. Robinson: "Nowhere in the world do I know of a place where such a wonderful opportunity is presented for the hybridization of begonias as your collection possesses. First, you have the climatic conditions for a successful growth and development of the seed-pod; second, you have such a large collection of varieties, and you have the skill to detect fine differences in plants."

What has already been accomplished? How

true are Mr. Fairchild's prophesies being proved? Mr. Robinson shows the result of seed from only four Rex seed pods, (this variety is a poor seeder) not only many shades of colors and markings of the leaves have developed, but one is a miniature-leaved variety (no larger than a small hand) which he has named "Marion", and another that he calls Poincare, which promises to be the largest-leaved variety that has ever been seen or heard of. The plant is now only one and a half years old and its leaves are enormous. Another most interesting seedling for the hanging basket is a fringed-petal variety resembling a carnation. Another fairy child is one showing plainly its parentage. Its foliage is obviously a slight deviation of the one plant in his whole collection grown from seed from Ecuador, and called the "Ecuador"; the flower is small, but as plainly proves its hanging-basket parent, with its many branched stems.

This year several new features have been arranged in the lathhouse. In the very shady northeast corner the collection of *Adiantum* ferns is displayed beside a small pool, backed by a wall and bordered by the common red hardpan of the neighborhood, but decorated with that exquisite green creeping plant, *Helxine Soleirollii*, nothing more perfect could be executed. Larger growing ferns hang from the wall and great sprays of *Adiantum* lean over the edge of the baskets above the water where fancy gold-fish are the favored occupants. Some fifteen or twenty varieties—all fine specimens—of *Adiantums* are displayed in redwood boxes and hanging baskets; the *A. microphyllum*, with the finest and most lacy fronds, and *A. Hemsleyaniii*, the fragrant-leaved variety, with particularly light green foliage.

The main entrance to the lathhouse is about eight feet square, and at the left side is a bank of *Asplenium proliferum*, the fern whose fronds bear little plantlets, and above hang the baskets of the more hardy maidenhair ferns. To the right, and forming a frame

about an open window, are some twenty-four specimens of the interesting stag-horn fern, *Platycerium Alcorni*, an epiphyte, lashed to a wad of moss which is fastened to a small board. It lives upon the air and moisture, so needs daily sprinkling. The mother plant of this staghorn family forms a beautiful crown to a supporting post near by, and proudly bends its sturdy spore-covered fronds above your head. In front of this window lies the visitors' register.

One basket of *Tydaea*, (a bulbous plant like a *gloxinia*) attracted much attention by its brilliant red, velvety, tubular flowers spotted brown.

The two trees which are conspicuous beneath the lath are the California Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), as vigorous in the shade and moisture of its present home as though it were growing on the foggy hillsides of the Santa Cruz mountains, or the slopes of Mt. Tamalpais. The other, *Podocarpus elongata*, is a beautiful fine-leaved tree from the mountains of tropical Africa. Its seed was sent to Santa Barbara by William Edward White, a member of the famous Roosevelt party that visited the wilds of Africa some eight years ago. Small plants of this tree are expected to be excellent decorative pot plants.

The "Fairies' Walk", a pathway between two tall-growing hedges of begonias, is very beautiful. On one side the white *Odorata Alba*, supported by a delicate and simple bamboo trellis, and on the other side the huge-growing begonia *Coralina Lucerne*, with its great coral-pink clusters and rich brown and red leaves. The pathway is a row of building tiles in a lawn of the charming *Helxine*, and a row beneath the tall begonias of that delightful blue African primrose, *Streptocarpus*.

At least twenty-four *Rex* begonias—Rosecroft seedlings—all new—(no duplicates in the world where well displayed and plainly marked as Rosecroft children, many named—others waiting for a name.

An ample canvas-covered section on the east side of the lathhouse, shades a long bench, where seedling begonias—all new ones—were displayed in three or four inch pots—some three hundred from a package of English seed, planted August 24, 1922, and showing great beauty and variety, but no buff shades.

A row of eight plants of an entirely new type, called the "Narcissus" variety, was not yet in bloom. There were also six plants with a brilliant, small smooth leaf and very erect stem, with rosy buds just showing, like the buds of a hollyhock, named *Martiana*.

A new type of the common tuberous begonia, grown from English seed and not one year old, showed very brilliant colors and very double flowers, and with such stiff stems that the flowers were very conspicuous, not

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drooping and their beauty half-hidden.

One interesting group of baby plants was grown from a sample package of the Rosecroft seed, such as was given as a prize for a subscription to our "California Garden Magazine" by Mr. Robinson. In this interesting group was one small begonia which Mr. Robinson just fondles and admires because it is so different from every other one of the thousand seedlings he has handled. If it proves to have beauty or great novelty and is worthy of the name, it might be called "David Fairchild".

The two conspicuous vines of the lathhouse are the lavender *Wistaria* and the *Begonia violacea*, blooming from February till May. The Australian tree fern is up to and through the roof, the tallest begonias in some places are in full bloom above the roof, in perpetual sunshine, while others are so laden with flowers that their erect stems are bent in festoon-like sprays. The *Coraline Lucerne*, the *Pink Rubra* and *Picta Rosea* are most conspicuous for their size, color and bloom. *Begonia florabunda*, pale pink, and *Begonia fuchsoides coccinea*, fiery red, are fine delicate growers, very tall and full of flowers, supported by the light bamboo trellis. There are many sports of the *Rubra* type, of which there are no duplicates as yet, through many

*Cont'd on Page 14*



# BALBOA PARK NOTES

By John G. Morley, Superintendent of Park,

## ESCALLONIAS

By John G. Morley, Superintendent.

The Escallonias are a widely dispersed shrub or small tree from South America, some Brazil and others from the mountainous sections of the Pacific Coast region, especially Chili and Peru.

In a recent conversation with Mr. Cook of the United States Horticultural Department, who has visited the South American countries as a plant collector for the department, he informs me that there are some very beautiful varieties in Chili and Peru, and that on his next visit to those countries he will collect as many varieties as possible and send them to be tested out in the new government station that is being established on the Pueblo Lands, near Torrey Pines Park.

The few varieties grown in Southern California are among the best of our shrubs for this climate,—the addition of other sorts will give us a still better collection to choose from.

Escallonias are hardy throughout the whole of Southern California and as far north as San Francisco. They will stand several degrees of frost and may be planted more freely in the open than some other shrubs from the countries named. They vary to some extent in their habit of growth under different climatic conditions of the state from San Diego to San Francisco. For instance, the varieties *Rubia* and *Rosea* and *Langleyensis* do not thrive here nearly as well as they do in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco,—there they are a beautiful glossy green the foliage always looks clean and pretty, and during the flowering season, are a beautiful sight in the massed planting throughout the park. In San Diego, the varieties *Rubia* and *Rosea*, owing to the drier atmosphere, are very liable to be infested with thrips and red spider, unless constant attention is given them by frequent spraying with water under pressure. However, from my experience with these two varieties in Balboa Park, they will repay for the attention given them.

The variety *Rubia* has pretty tubular red flowers, and the variety *Rosea*, pretty rose pink flowers,—the variety *Langleyensis* is a hybrid and is grown farther north in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Francisco. It is taller and more graceful in habit of growth, and the flowers of a delicate pink shade are very pretty during the flowering season in June.

*Escallonia Montvidenis*, a beautiful white flowering variety,—blooms through July and August,—grows to a large shrub ten feet in height, and of spreading habit,—is very fine for planting where it may be given plenty of room for natural growth. I would not advise its use in small gardens for the above reason.

*Escallonia Pulverulenta*, grown in San Diego under the name of *E. Berteriana*—this is a beautiful, tall white flowering variety, producing large spikes of pure white flowers during May and June in this climate,—farther north, about thirty days later. The cut spikes of bloom will keep for several days in water, and is invaluable as a cut flower during the season.

Escallonias are of easy and rapid growth. They will stand severe pruning,—will grow well planted near the Coast where the sea breeze is not too severe, and is one of our best drouth-resistant shrubs.

The State of Arizona has contributed one of the most interesting trees for planting in this vicinity, the *Parkinsonia Aculeata*, a small tree with pendulous branches and leaves eight to sixteen inches long, with spiny petioles and numerous small leaflets,—flowers of a very pretty yellow on pendulous stems. The tree belongs to the *Leguminosa*, seed pods resembling a pea. This tree is one of the most drouth-resistant of all the trees planted in Southern California. At this season of the year they are a mass of beautiful yellow flowers and several trees are now in bloom in Balboa Park, on the west side, adjacent to the former buffalo paddock. The best specimens in flower at present are in the Golden Hill section, along the circular drive at the Twenty-fifth street entrance. Miss K. O. Sessions mentioned this tree in the magazine recently, and now is the time to see it in flower, proving all the good recommendations for its planting heretofore mentioned.

If you are visiting in Balboa Park, the dahlias are one of the features of special interest at present also the red flowering eucalyptus, near Sixth and Juniper streets and in the Golden Hill division.

## EUSTOMA RUSSELLIANUM

There was on display in the Flower Shop window for two weeks or more a bunch of flowers of a very attractive blue shade, they were sent to Miss Rainford by Mrs. Mary T. Trent of East San Diego. They were sent to her by her sister from Texas. *Eustoma Russellianum*, commonly called "Texas Bluebells", belong to the *Gentian* family. They are erect glaucous herbs with large open campanulate blue flowers in clusters of five or more, each flower single on its stem. They have been exploited of late years in Texas as a florists flower being abundant in their locality, shipping well, and very lasting. The Southern Flora places them as annuals, but says they become perennial in Southern California. I had some seeds sent me early in the season and will share with some one who will give them a good trial. SECRETARY.

### LAW HAS MADE INSECT-KILLING PREPARATIONS MORE DEPENDABLE

The law cannot be made to apply to the activities of insects themselves, as desperate, bug-ridden humanity once hoped and even believed, but in recent years we have found it possible to increase the effectiveness of our warfare on bugs by insisting through the medium of the law that insecticides be sold for what they are and not merely for profit. Under the Insecticide Act of 1910, administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, a manufacturer may sell any insecticide providing he tells on the label the truth about the contents and does not exaggerate in describing its powers as a destroyer or repellent, and provided the remedy is not injurious to the plants or animals to which it is to be applied.

When this law first went into effect a large percentage of the preparations for destroying insect pests of animals and plants were deceptively labeled; many of them had no more effect than swearing or a tepid bath.

At the present time, according to the entomologists who test the proprietary insecticides for the Insecticide and Fungicide Board, a large proportion of those offered for sale and over which the Insecticide Act has jurisdiction, are truthfully labeled. In other words, the consumer, if he will but take the trouble to critically read the label, may be pretty sure of getting something that will kill the bug which he is after. Uncle Sam no longer tolerates the sale of such "unfailing" pest killers as the two blocks of wood. Those found by the Board's inspectors in the channels of interstate traffic and which claim to be effective to kill or repel certain insects, must prove their worth in actual tests made in that part of the country where the insects in question are prevalent, or in the department's laboratories located on a farm near Washington.

On this farm dogs are kept to provide "pasture" for fleas; chickens infested with lice and mites provide means for testing various powders and dips; cockroaches, easy keepers, are raised in large numbers; bedbugs were grown with only moderate success on guinea pigs and rats, and now the public supplies the insects in abundance when the department makes known its wants. An orchard of many kinds of fruit trees, a garden, a vineyard, and shade trees provide means for testing insecticides or preparations said to be effective against plant pests.

It may be well to say here that the department is not at present in need of any more bedbugs. A recent newspaper story calling attention to the laboratory's offer of one cent each for 1200 of the insects to be delivered alive was reprinted in many cities and soon

brought an ample supply, packages coming from as far away as California. Many of the consignors expressed doubt as to whether it was serious business, but a few suggested they would like to contract to make regular shipments of choice, active bugs. However, the department only occasionally has need for test lots to determine the quality of new preparations.

Although hundreds of vendors of fake bug killers have been driven off the market with the swatter of the law, a few of them continue to buzz around, now in this and then in another state. One of the most plausible of these parasites has been selling so-called insecticides to be poured into holes bored into the trunks of infested trees, the claim being made that the sap will carry the poison into the leaves where it will kill the insects feeding upon them. Many substances, containing various ingredients from ordinary sand to the deadly cyanide, have been recommended and sold by these charlatans for use in this manner. Tests made by the insecticide laboratory in the manner prescribed have produced only negative results. Even when enough of such poisons as cyanide and sodium arsenite to kill the branches were introduced into the circulations of growing trees the insects feeding on the leaves were not injured. Many times when trees are injured by such treatments they are stimulated to produce more than the usual crop of fruit, but this is in accord with the frequently observed tendency of injured plants to reproduce themselves before death overtakes them. It is an effort which precedes a breakdown.

Other deceptions are practiced, but attention to labels will help greatly in avoiding them. Those falsely labeled as to the active and inert (inactive or useless) ingredients and as to their effectiveness are continually being run down by the department through analyses and actual tests.

### JUDGING DAHLIAS

This is the schedule for judging Dahlias adopted by the Dahlia Society of California and which will guide the awards at the coming show September 8-9 in the Civic Auditorium, Balboa Park.

Color .....	20
Stem and Foliage....	25
Substance .....	15
Form .....	20
Size .....	20
	<hr/>
	100

Fall Flower Show September 8 and 9,  
Civic Auditorium, Balboa Park.



# The August & Sept. Gardens

## AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER GARDENS

By Marry A. Matthews.

For the gardener August is essentially a lazy month. By this time the annuals should be flowering abundantly, the perennial seedlings growing along and the biennials fattening into healthy clumps for next year's bloom. In August the gardener hasn't much else to do than watering, scratch the soil to make a dust mulch powder to keep down mildew and read the bulb catalogs. To these he can add the enjoyment of contemplating his handiwork, of laying in the shade and enjoying the flowers his efforts have brought into bloom. Too few gardeners do this, so engrossed in work are they, so busy in this and that, so rushed to finish before sundown, that they do not behold their gardens with an eye for beauty. Some part of every day should be given to quiet enjoyment, some month of every year and August is the ideal month, after that September and the heavy work of gardening begins. August is the lull before the storm. The above struck me so forcibly and as being so especially suited to us I could not forbear to copy from House and Garden for August, when we take up our tasks again the last of this month and September, where annuals are passed, take out and fill in with later flowering plants, this is where the seedling plants carried over in boxes or a reserve bed so well serve us for you can fill in with colonies of bulbs for spring, a dozen or more grouped together are much more effective than when planted singly. Cultivate and irrigate all autumn subjects: Dahlias, mums, cannas, all need copious watering, with cultivation afterwards, to give the finest blooms; also weak manure water every once in a while. With asters nitrate of soda about one tablespoonful to three gallons of water is very effective, usually about two weeks is required before it shows the result, so when planning for any special time use about 12 or 14 days before the bloom is to be cut.

Violets want to be well cultivated now. Pinch outside shoots and runners. Mulch with well rotted manure.

You can sow in September seeds of forget-me-nots, sweet alysum, mignonette, calendulas where they are to bloom. Put in at this time they will give early blooms.

Where your ground has been heavily cropped early in the season, spade in the depth of a foot or more. Give a good dressing of lime or soot, and you can plant it to some

*Continued on page 16*

## THE AUGUST GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

As we approach fall weather conditions it is important to remember that we must take advantage of the next few weeks to start many things in the garden, both flowers and vegetables, before the longer and cooler nights are here and the ground gets cold, making plant growth so much slower. Seed sown now or plants set out will, with proper care, have reached such a sturdy growth by the time cooler conditions of ground and weather are here that they will grow right along, while many of the same things started after the ground gets cold will hang fire and take twice the time to mature. Taking it for granted that you have got at least some of the ground for your fall garden prepared as suggested in the July number, you will find the present time about right to plant a few potatoes. The White Rose variety is the most popular and it is well to buy certified seed, so as to be sure that you will not be bothered with any disease. Cut your seed two eyes to the piece and plant in well spaded and manured land, five inches deep and about twelve or sixteen inches apart in rows two feet apart, or two and a half. With potatoes as with other vegetables, you must use judgment with regard to the amount of water you use, the object being to keep a uniform moisture, enough to promote healthy, steady growth until crop is matured, and then gradually dry off.

The market gardeners are now beginning to plant peas, lettuce and spinach quite extensively and you are pretty safe in following their example. Blue Bantam and Senator peas are good and Long Standing or Prickly Spinach will give good results. There is no better lettuce to be had anywhere than Los Angeles Market and do not forget to put in a few radishes at intervals of a week or two, so that you can have something on the table from the garden almost immediately.

Get in another planting of sweet corn if your location is high and warm, also Ventura Wonder and Canadian Wonder beans. Continue to plant cabbage and cauliflower either seed or plants, also kale, parsnips, beets, etc.

In the flower garden Sweet Pea time is again here and there are quite a few improvements in the colors and shades offered in the Xmas Blooming Spencers, and now that we are raising such fine Ranunculus,

*Continued on page 16*

# The California Garden

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Mrs. Sidney E. Mayer, Associate Editor  
3128 Laurel, San Diego.

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### EDITORIALY

For the eighteenth time the San Diego Floral Association faces its Fall Show, with confidence because of its long history of similar events starting with a large resulting deficit ever growing smaller till it disappeared and now the balance seems to have definitely settled on the right side. Not a large balance because such things involve many expenses in spite of a mountain of volunteer efforts. The accumulated surpluses have now gone into the repair and alteration of the former Kansas Building, to be so-called in this magazine no more, for from now on it is The Floral Association Home, and now more surpluses and bigger ones are needed to equip that building to help the Association to serve more efficiently than in the past the city and community for which alone it exists. At a later date we propose to take up somewhat in detail the hopes and plans of the Floral tribe in connection with that Park Home now we would discuss with you Flower Shows—anything about them that comes into our mind as we write.

We have already made a bad mistake in these few lines in referring to the coming show as a Floral Association feature for it is distinctly a civic event even if it should not be nominated as belonging to a wider territory than our much spread out city covers. In giving these Shows the Association merely acts as agent for the community and the folks of the community who need flower shows the least of any are the Floral ones who stage the events. The main aim of these shows is to educate, to arouse in the gardenless ones the desire for a garden, to stimulate those with gardens to a determination to have bet-

ter ones and to put in every mind a better understanding of the reality in life of these beautiful productions of nature and man when he works on with her. This very day a visitor who has now retired from landscaping and nurserying in the Eastern States said I am sorely tempted to make my home here when I see your possibilities in flower growths. Not, mark you, in lemons or avocados or apricots but in flowers. This man wants to quit the business of flowers and has done so that he may the more thoroughly enjoy them. We mention this, not that we think the advertising value of our shows to the outside world is of the first importance because we consider this angle insignificant when compared with their effect upon ourselves, but because we recognize with regret that in our assessment we differ with the majority. However, looked at from any angle a Flower Show seems worth while. The workers who put in weeks of effort for a few hours of result receive, besides the criticism of those who don't work, the benefits accruing to those two or three that gather together for service, some of the exhibitors learn that they are not the only ones and others make of rivals fast friends, while there is in the city for a short period one surpassingly beautiful and sweet spot.

Perhaps one of the very brightest features in the shows of the past many years and which will continue along into the future it is fervently to be hoped has been and is the whole-hearted co-operation of the Park Board and it is not too much to say that this has contributed more than anything else to the record success obtained. Superintendent Morley has a unique knowledge not only of Park work but of Floral exhibition staging and when the Park Board has said to him "Go to it" something immensely worthwhile has been doing and he and some of his subordinates have long felt that the Floral Association and the Park are one and indivisible though they probably won't acknowledge it. We well remember the remark of an orator imported from Los Angeles to grace a recent dedication he said with infinite pathos, "Morley whom you stole from us". Perhaps it should be mentioned for the benefit of those who are super-jealous of public works that the Floral Association always pays the out of pocket charges of the Park for services rendered.

Thousands of visitors take in our San Diego Flower Shows they represent a wide territory. At a Floral reception in private grounds this August the gathering had delegates from forty-one places in the United States and France, Mexico, Canada and England were also present. Most of these carry away mental pictures that some association will recall for years. At their homes and elsewhere they will say as they see this flower and that, Oh

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but you should have seen what San Diego had. Surely it is supremely worth while to have our memory framed like this.

It is so obviously a right and a wise thing and, if you will, a paying thing to have flower shows that it seems unwise to ever be without one. We have our Chambers of Commerce, where the prize fruits forever bathe in alcohol or something that keeps them ever young and fair, and giant pumpkins litter the floor with their weight tags attached. We have our Public Libraries, Museums and other things. Municipal bands, baths and parks, but who ever heard of a city having a continuous flower show. We were much entertained on a recent visit to a city north of us, with an account of the difficulties a floral body there had encountered in trying to get permission to hold a flower show on public domain revolving round the scope of authority of an official and we were supremely thankful and proud to talk of the support given our Association. Naturally with so perishable an exhibit as flowers a continuous show is a big order though done on a moderate scale it is more feasible in San Diego than any other where in the world, still frequent perhaps monthly exhibits are easily possible. It may be said with truth that we have our wondrous Balboa Park all the time where every day in the year blooms are blowing, but it is only the minority that go to see them and will walk a distance just for a flower and again we urge that these flower shows are for the education of those who don't know and think they don't care about such things. Naturally we are a bit visionary on floral subjects, perhaps we place too much weight upon their consideration, but to this fault if fault it be San Diego owes the Lathhouse in the Park. This magazine initiated the idea though the execution of it was far from the vision. And that vision still persists enlarged, we had almost said glorified, and it has gathered substance become a bit less nebulous because the Floral Association has homed in the Park.

Continuing our super-serious floral mode we are moved to suggest that it is a civic duty to attend the coming flower show and bring along your sisters and your cousins and your aunts and finally we wish that all our civic obligations could be so pleasantly discharged.

#### JULY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting for July was held at the home of Mrs. Herbert S. Evans, 1506 Plumosa Way, on the evening of July 17th, with a large number present. The subject for the evening was cacti and other succulents, with Miss Sessions leading the talk. Miss Sessions had gathered together a large number of specimens, both from her own garden and also that of Mrs. Evans, whose can-

yon garden contains many rare specimens of these things. So enthusiastic was Miss Sessions upon the subject that just before the opening of the meeting she disappeared with flashlight in hand to emerge shortly afterward with the said light in one hand and a good specimen in the other. No one should fail to read her excellent article in the July "California Garden" on Aloes and kindred subjects. Another talk of interest was that of Prof. C. H. Eigenmann of Bloomington, Indiana. His work is collecting rare fishes for the government and has taken him into many strange places. While deeply interested in his work he said he had relaxed at times and enjoyed the wonderful flora of the sections through which he passed. He gave us an account of the wonders of the Andes—and the various experiences he had. He was particularly struck with the numerous orchids, the palms and the climbing bamboos. Mr. Cushman showed fine seedling Dahlias sent by Mrs. Edith Nowak, who now has the old home of the late Mr. Sies, at Point Loma. Various fine specimen flowers were shown. We all felt that we were especially indebted to Mrs. Evans as this meeting was in a way thrust upon her, notwithstanding though, she gave us a cordial welcome.

By Miss Mary Matthews.

Secretary.

Fall Flower Show September 8 and 9,  
Civic Auditorium, Balboa Park.

#### TO OUR ADVERTISERS

The circulation of California Garden has reached the point when the old schedule prices for advertising space are "fair ridiculous" as the Scotchman Erchie said. They have therefore been revised as printed in this issue and the new schedule will apply to all new advertisers but all the old faithfuls that have stayed with us through the years of our tribulation will be carried at the old price for this year and California Garden is peculiarly proud and glad to be able to give them more than their money's worth as a little appreciation of their support and faith. May they be swamped with results.

#### WE ALL HAVE MISSED HER

Doubtless our readers have missed the charming touches put in California Garden by the Associate Editor, Pearl LaForce Mayer. She has been seriously ill for some time but is on the mend now. There will be many who will wish to express their sympathy in appreciation of what she has written and therefore her address is given here, 3128 Laurel, San Diego. Letters from outside are most welcome when we have to stay indoors for any length of time.

Fall Flower Show September 8 and 9,  
Civic Auditorium, Balboa Park.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.



*REX BEGONIA AND MAIDENHAIR FERN*  
*from a San Diego Lathhouse*



## SALIENT FEATURES OF NEXT MONTH'S WEATHER

By Dean Blake, Meteorologist, Weather Bureau.

If you were to ask the "old resident" what the hottest month of the year in San Diego was he would undoubtedly name September. While the daily mean temperature is higher in July and August, it is in this month that the few high temperatures we experience largely occur. Of the 55 days with a maximum over 90 degrees recorded in all months of the year in the city since 1872, 22 of these have occurred in September. However, a mitigating feature as far as physical comfort is concerned is that these hot days are invariably accompanied by a low humidity, which means that there is prevalent but little moisture in the air, and therefore less oppressive or enervating to the body.

It is during this month that high pressure areas begin to move across the north Pacific States, frequently causing cloudless skies for several days at a time, very rare occurrence in July or August. The nights, too, gradually become cooler, the air clearer and drier, and the weather takes on an autumn mildness. As there is a continuance of summer dryness, the earth retains its carpet of brown and tan and all streams are at their lowest ebb.

As a rule the rainfall is light, but once in a while a "tramp" storm forms in the southwest and visits the region. Blustery conditions though are unknown as the wind is constantly light at all hours of the day and night, usually coming from the ocean but backing into the eastern quadrant during the periods of high temperature.

## BETTER THAN LATH

Albert Spencer of Decatur, Texas, recommends the use of tow sacks instead of lath as a protection for plants from the heat of the Texas sun. He sends the following:

"I see in the convention issue of the Southern Florist that one of our lady florists seems to be troubled with the care of her plants through the hot summer; and she speaks of the lathhouse as a probable solution. Lath houses are good, but here is one that is much better and cheaper, although it may not look so good. I have tried both, and I wish to urge that she try my plan, for I know I will be repaid in thanks in the future.

"Build you a frame the same as you would for a lathhouse, only use lighter and cheaper material. Rip open a lot of old grain sacks, the same as you would pack trees in. Sew them together to form strips, like ducking, and long enough to reach over the house or frame. Fasten them to the bottom boards or sill on each side, by cleating them with plaster

laths or thin boards of any kind. Stretch tight, then whip the cracks together with strong thread. Make all sides and top and ends out of these sacks, cleat firmly to all studding, base boards and rafters with lathing or light boards. Then cut square holes, two or three feet square, in the upper part of the walls and sew in screen wire to fit. Cut no holes in the west end or west wall, as the case may be. This is to shut out the hot afternoon sun.

"Use old screen doors for doors, covered half way up with sacks. Make plenty of these holes or windows in the north, south and east, to provide light and air.

"To form benches or beds for the plants, set up edgewise such boards as you may have, forming ground beds. Leave walks between. Fill the beds one or two inches with clean sand or cinders. Place the plants a reasonable distance apart, and watch them grow! You will be astonished."

This article has been clipped from the Southern Florist, it appeared at the time the Editor of California Garden was adding to his lathhouse an annex covered with cloth. This was done to get more light and warmth than could be had in the old house now grown up rather densely and the few months' experience with it has seemed to make it indispensable especially for the tuberous begonias, which need plenty of light, all they can get without hot sunlight.

## THE GRAY GOOSE SAYS

What I am about to say is not plagiarism. These remarks were planned and partly penciled long before Miss Sessions took the wind out of my wings with her article on "Plants for Southern California." Lest you forget, I will just dip in my web foot oars and splash right along on the same subject.

If your spare time and strength is small, your money less, and your garden gumption nil, yet your desire is great to grow flowers, try freesias and daffodils. You push the button by putting them in the ground and let Dame Nature do the rest. They give large returns for small effort, multiply fast, and are sure to bloom in the spring tra la. If flowers are wanted later, start cactus, aloes, mesembry anthemums and other drought and sunloving plants. After growth has started these need no care. Oh, yes, once in awhile they need a bath and barber lest they get too wild and wooly.

No, my dear goslings, there is not Lazy Lane to a good garden. You must dabble here and nibble there, and yank off somewhere else. You must hoe and hose, and spade and spray, and be not weary of well doing, for the jungle and buglets will get you if you don't watch out.

# PREMIUM LIST

## SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

17TH. ANNUAL FALL FLOWER SHOW, SEPT. 8TH. AND 9TH.

### CIVIC AUDITORIUM, BALBOA PARK

#### Section A.—Open to Professionals

- Class 1. Best collection of decorative plants arranged for effect in space about 10x10 feet.
- Class 2. Best collection twenty-five shrubs for garden use.
- Class 3. Best collection fifteen vines.
- Class 4. Best display of potted or boxed ferns.
- Class 5. Best specimen fern; any variety.
- Class 6. Best fern hanging basket.
- Class 7. Best hanging basket other than ferns.
- Class 8. Best decorative plant.
- Class 9. Best new plant or flower not shown before.
- Class 10. Best pair tub or urn plants standing exposure.
- Class 11. Best collection potted plants.
- Class 12. Best collection Begonias, cut or potted.
- Class 13. Best collection Dahlias.
- Class 14. Best collection San Diego County seedling Dahlias.
- Class 15. Best six varieties "Cactus" three blooms each.
- Class 16. Best six varieties "Decorative" three blooms each.
- Class 17. Best six varieties "Paeony" three blooms each.
- Class 18. Best six varieties "Single" three blooms each.
- Class 19. Best six varieties "Pompon" three blooms each.
- Class 20. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias.

#### Section B.—For Amateurs—Dahlias

- Class 21. Best display Dahlias.
- Class 22. Best three varieties "Cactus", one bloom each.
- Class 23. Best three varieties "Decorative", 1 bloom each.
- Class 24. Best three varieties "Paeony", one bloom each.
- Class 25. Best three varieties "Single", one bloom each.
- Class 26. Best six blooms "Pompons".
- Class 27. Best six blooms "Collarettes".
- Class 28. Best collection San Diego County Seedling, one bloom each.
- Class 29. Best collection recent introduction.
- Class 30. Best one bloom Cactus.
- Class 31. Best one bloom Decorative.
- Class 32. Best one bloom Paeony.
- Class 33. Best one bloom Single.
- Class 34. Best one bloom Pompon.

- Class 35. Best one bloom Collarette.
- Class 36. Best one bloom San Diego County Seedling.
- Class 37. Best vase, basket or other arrangement Dahlias only.
- Class 37a. Dahlia Cup for best six varieties representing the several types, 1 bloom each.

#### Section C.—For Amateurs

- Class 38. Best display of Zinnias.
- Class 39. Best six blooms red Zinnias.
- Class 40. Best six blooms red shaded Zinnias.
- Class 41. Best six blooms pink Zinnias.
- Class 42. Best six blooms pink shaded Zinnias.
- Class 43. Best six blooms yellow Zinnias.
- Class 44. Best six blooms yellow shaded Zinnias.
- Class 45. Best six blooms any other color Zinnias.
- Class 46. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias.

#### Zinnia Sweepstake

- Class 47. Best display of Asters, American Beauty Type.
- Class 48. Best display of Asters, Crego Type.
- Class 49. Best Display of Asters, Victoria Type.
- Class 50. Best display of Asters, Single.
- Class 51. Best display of Marigolds, French.
- Class 51a. Best display Marigolds, African.
- Class 51b. Best display of Calendulas.
- Class 52. Best display of Cannas.
- Class 53. Best display of Gladiolus.
- Class 54. Best display of Annuals.
- Class 55. Best display of Perennials.
- Class 56. Best basket of Annuals.
- Class 57. Best new flower or plant not before exhibited.

#### Section D.—For Amateurs

- Class 58. Best display of cut or potted fibrous Begonias.
- Class 59. Best display of tuberous Begonias.
- Class 60. Best one specimen fibrous Begonia.
- Class 61. Best one specimen tuberous Begonia.
- Class 62. Best one specimen Rex Begonia.
- Class 63. Best collection of Rex Begonias.
- Class 64. Best specimen Rex, San Diego County Seedling, cross or hybrid.
- Class 65. Best specimen Maidenhair Fern.
- Class 66. Best specimen fern, other than maidenhair.
- Class 67. Best collection ferns.
- Class 68. Best arrangement of Begonias and ferns in bowl, basket or vase.
- Class 69. Best fern hanging basket.



- Class 70. Best hanging basket other than ferns.
- Class 71. Best foliage plant for interior decoration.
- Class 72. Best flowering plant for interior decoration. (Must be in flower.)
- Class 73. Best flowering vine. (Must be in flower.)
- Class 74. Best collection cut sprays flowering trees or shrubs. (Must be in flower.)
- Class 75. Best collection berried shrubs (cut sprays or potted plants.)
- Class 76. Best exhibit of Bamboo and grasses.
- Section E—For Amateurs**
- Class 77. Best dining table decoration.

#### Rules

1. All exhibits must be in place and properly entered by 11 a. m. of first day of show, so that judging may be completed and awards made before opening time. No exhibitor will be allowed to be present while judging is going on.
  2. All entries must be in the hands of the clerks by 10 a. m. of first day of show. Clerks will be on duty at 7:30 a. m. and entries will be received at any time between these hours.
  3. All pot plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months; all other flowers and plants must have been grown by the exhibitor, except where used for table decoration.
  4. The committee on awards is authorized to give suitable award for any meritorious exhibit not included in classes named above.
  5. Exhibits can be entered in one class only.
  6. Vases are loaned without charge for cut flowers in the competitive classes.
  7. All exhibits are, from the commencement of the show, under the jurisdiction of the show officials, and no exhibit shall be removed before the close of the show without the authority of the officials in charge.
  8. Entries will not be considered by judges unless meritorious.
  9. All exhibits must be labeled with the correct names of the plants on white cards 2x3 inches, which will be furnished without charge. Names of exhibitors in competitive classes positively must not appear on exhibits until after awards have been made.
  10. In classes where a given number of blooms is specified, any excess or deficiency of count shall constitute cause for disqualification.
  11. Artificially colored flowers or plants will not be received as entries.
  12. All exhibits are staged in conformity with the rules of the show.
- Deviation from the above rules may constitute cause for disqualification.
13. In Class 77, best dining table decoration, fancy cloth should not be used. Decora-

tions should be so arranged on table as to allow space for service.

The Floral Association invites exhibits, however small, if meritorious.

Exhibits of single specimens of flowers or plants will be duly considered.

No fee is charged for making entries in this show.

Special reservations of space may be made by telephone to the Secretary of the Floral Association, or in person, by mail or telephone at the Flower Shop, 1115 Fourth street. Main 297.

Where exhibits are to be of any considerable size, it is advisable to make reservations in advance.

#### CALIFORNIA BULB NOTES

J. A. Brown of the Brown Bulb Ranch, Capitola, Cal., is kind enough to send us the following notes:

While the freesia crop is heavier than either last year or the year before a heavy percentage of the growers will only be able to deliver black or red bulbs, so on account of this condition there will be very few more first class bulbs than last year. I believe, however, that the percentage of large bulbs is considerably higher than we have had for at least three seasons.

*Continued on Page 16*

## Leaf Mould

from oak (nut bearing)  
trees, best quality, for hot  
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**Bryant  
Williams**

*Santa Ysabel, Calif.*

# THE LATHHOUSE

A Series by Alfred D. Robinson.

## A Series No. 7—Tuberous Begonias

As the reader has no doubt observed the sequence of these articles is somewhat lacking in rhyme and reason and the particular heading of this number shows considerable of a jump from No. 6, but just at this time the tuberous begonia is very much in evidence and therefore easier of discussion because all this writing is from experience mixed, good and bad, it must be so because begonia literature is either lacking or in foreign tongues that the writer does not understand.

The term tuberous begonia is now generally understood to mean the various types that make a tuber from which an annual growth starts and flowers and dies back each season and which are seen in this country almost exclusively as potted or basketted specimens, though in Europe they are employed for bedding purposes as we use geraniums, being quite hardy and not affected by rains as most folks suppose. They have failed in the United States thus used because the summers are too hot and dry. Visitors to the San Francisco Exposition in 1915 will remember the wonderful display in the Holland exhibit which, however, had to be protected with muslin and treated as an ailing child. These tuberous begonias are now so varied in form and color and so adapted to lathhouse culture that they must have first consideration, moreover being of small growth they are more generally adaptable than larger ones and can be used for house decoration. Before going into the different kinds it might be well to consider their requirements. Most people will start their acquaintance with these plants as tubers and the first thing to know is that the apparent top side is really the bottom, the top growth is made from the cup shaped depression. They are usually started about March either partly covered in sand or placed on top of moss kept damp and in a temperature between 60 and 70, and here it might be well to say that all begonia growing operations function best in that temperature, which accounts for the evident appreciation of San Diego climate by the family. They do not seem to require dark for this starting but don't want sunlight. When growth is well underway they should be potted in a loose mixture of sand loam and leaf mold with a sprinkling of bone meal. The usual well rotted manure is omitted because I have never seen any in this vicinity, dessicated Yes, rotted No. After they are once growing they must not be allowed to dry out. A good sized tuber will want at least two shifts of

pots as their root system is prodigious. Most of them will require staking and tying which should be done before you think it necessary as the juncture between tuber and stem is the smallest and weakest section. For finest flowers the seed pods should be removed, they almost always bloom in threes, the center being the male and large flower and the two outside ones the seed bearers. If grown in pots they are helped by plunging the pots in moist earth or sawdust. Good drainage is absolutely necessary.

Of late years the tuberous begonias have been marvellously increased in size of bloom and range of color. For many years wonderful doubles have been produced but nearly all failed to hold up their flowers which hid in the foliage or were supported by disfiguring stakes. One of the chief European specialists has recently developed a strain with stiffer and longer stems adding immensely to their value. In the regular tuberous there are now the singles, sometimes reaching eight to ten inches in diameter, my largest, a pink, was ten by eleven, the frilled with crinkled edges as the same implies, the crested with a superimposed smaller petals bunched in the center, the doubles and a new kind called the narcissus flowered which I have never seen in bloom but having some small plants I can hardly wait for their flower as the ladies say though how I shall do otherwise I don't know. The doubles vary much in type also, being smooth petalled like a camelia, fringed like a carnation, deep and full and flat and open in face the combinations are very many.

The type that has caused the most interest lately is the so-called Lloydii or hanging basket type which has more variations than all the others put together. It is the most vigorous growing of all and will, if unstaked, droop its branches and continue to grow and bloom in a pendant state, I have measured stems over three feet. They have smaller leaves than the regular tuberous and longer ones and the blooms run through every color except blue, the white ones and yellow ones often supplying quite a little towards the green. The form of the flowers is immensely varied from four petalled singles to a tight camelia form though the types seems to be a rather loosely arranged bunch of narrow petals strongly resembling a rosette of baby ribbon and similarly the best type in growth habit is very branchy making a well rounded specimen even on young plants. This hanging basket type is the hardiest of all the tuberous and the easiest to raise from seed, if one should describe such an operation as easy under the best conditions, it presents wonder-



ful possibilities and so far as my knowledge goes is the only tuberous that has crossed with a fibrous species. I have a hybrid between the hanging tuberous and a native of Ecuador that is of the well known Verschaffelti type. This hybrid is tuberous, has the leaves and form of bloom of the Eucadorean but the time of flowering of the tuberous and its much greater amount and length of blooming season. There are a few other apparent hybrids which have not bloomed yet, though in their second season. I have no knowledge of how these hanging types originated, perhaps they occurred as most novelties do, claims of individuals notwithstanding, as just happen-sos, gifts of the Gods.

Another tuberous begonia a very old one that has almost disappeared, but which should be treated with more consideration is Evansiana, this makes quite a large branching specimen with rather green leaves and small pink flowers and also makes bulblets like some lilies in the axils of the leaves. Often where a large specimen has been grown the next season quite a crop of little plants will sprout. It would seem a logical parent for experimental crossing with the larger flowered tuberous.

Another tuberous is Martiana, of which I confess my complete ignorance, however I am growing some and shall collect data. It seems to be a very upright big grower, carrying its flowers on short stems near the stem like a hollyhock but I must confess that Bailey's description of Martiana does not read in the least like that.

It should be mentioned that any of the tuberous grow very well in hanging baskets.

A very complete article on raising begonias from seed was filched bodily from Ravenscroft's Begonia Culture for Amateurs and published in the Garden last Fall.

#### FLORAL ASSOCIATION OPENS ROSE-CROFT LATHHOUSE

*Continued from page 2*

shades of pink and one pure white.

The Rosecroft seedlings of the hanging basket varieties are extra fine, and two special baskets of two year-old plants are in all shades of apricot, buff, copper and sunset shades. The flowers are large, both double and single and the plants very vigorous. Another is a rich orange-yellow, pure in color throughout, and with handsome foliage. Another is of a pale yellow, very large and single, and so like a butterfly in appearance that it has been named "Papillio". This variety has flower stems fully six inches in length.

The "Apple Blossom" seedling first shown last year is very vigorous and drooping. A

double white one hanging next is exquisitely beautiful and better than a year ago.

The dark reds and scarlets, and orange and buff shades seem very vigorous and before the season is over will be drooping below the basket's edge fully one and a half to two feet.

Mr. Robinson has for the first time grown a few of the hanging basket type in six and eight inch pots, tied to a stake. One is nearly three feet high and many are eighteen inches and two feet, and there are a few more weeks for growth.

The begonias have their flowering seasons, like many other plants. Some of the best bloomers come very early, such as Verschaffelti and Feastii. "Ricinifolia" is just in bud, while a very handsome and tall pair of Gilsonii have been blooming since winter and are about through. Some varieties are typical winter bloomers, such as Jessie and Templinii and Haageana.

There are over one hundred hanging baskets and two hundred varieties of begonias in the collection, many of which have no duplicates in existence.

Refreshments were served under a scarlet canopy in the midst of a grove of cypress trees and the guests departed, carrying with them memories of a very happy day.

KATE O. SESSIONS.

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# The FLOWER SHOP



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## THE HARDY EVERGREEN SHRUBS

To this class belong those shrubs which retain their leaves in winter, their broad shining leaves distinguishing them from the conifers. As a group they should be more generally planted about the homes in our coast towns, because they produce an interesting winter effect. In landscape work they are invaluable for "foundation plantings" so that buildings may not look bare at any season, and for single specimens or groups in ground planting, they are indispensable. While they are not as prolific in bloom as the deciduous shrubs, many have beautiful colored berries following the bloom, which hang on all winter and in this way produce delightful landscape effects. In giving this general list, I shall purposely omit those tender shrubs which have previously been exploited by other writers of the "Garden". To the layman, the scientific plant nomenclature and minute details of some, or most, of the newer and tender introductions in plants, is very interesting but to the average planter who wants flowers and shrubs to adorn his home or grounds, there is "nothing in a name." What the planter wants to know is whether the plant or shrub will come up to his or her requirements, in the prospective plantings, of soil, of heat or cold and general utility as to environment.

It is a deplorable fact, that the country districts outside the frostless belts, are lacking in plantings of shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen—partly from the lack of the right knowledge of just what will grow and do well in their particular locality. The country needs more general planting and the homes

would be far more attractive if more attention was given to these useful shrubs used as windbreaks, hedges and shade for domestic animals, as well as to adorn the grounds of rural homes.

*Abelia grandiflora*, a free flowering Mexican shrub with small shining leaves and small pale pink flowers, much used as small hedge plant and in massing at base of buildings, one of the best, hardy shrubs and should be more generally used in home adornment.

*Aucuba Japonica*. Handsome shrub with large green and golden spotted leaves for shady locations, and to live up other plantings of shrubs, very ornamental.

*Barberis*, *Barberry*. The evergreen barberries comprise some of the most useful ornamentals both for the city lot, or for more extensive plantings. All have beautiful foliage of varying shades of green and red, followed by ornamental fruit. *Buxifolia* is one of the new introductions from Chili, very graceful and free flowering.

*Stenophylla* is also fine with long arching sprays of narrow dark evergreen leaves; flowers profusely, much used in rock garden work. Nearly all of this interesting class of shrubs make fine autumn and winter colorings for garden and park, and the long list finds many that should be planted.

*Buxus*. These plants are used extensively in formal gardening, bordering or pot or tub plants, where grounds are sufficiently large they are admirable little plants, embracing as they do many varieties of form and coloring.

*Calif. Carpenteria*, *Tree anemone*. One of our handsomest native shrubs with bright green foliage and large white flowers with prominent yellow stamens, very fragrant, fine as a specimen plant.

*Cestrum*, or coral plant. Shrub with large leaves and reddish or yellow tubular shaped flowers, borne in great profusion all summer. One of the best flowering shrubs where a fine specimen is wanted, rather likes partial shade, and water, to be at its best.

*Crataegus crenulata*, *Evergreen Hawthorn*. Large shrub with white flowers in clusters, berries scarlet and bear abundantly. It is beautiful at any time of year and some of the new varieties *pyracantha* and *yunnaneusis* are wonderful.

*Diosma*, *Breath of Heaven*. Small shrub, very fine feathery foliage, delightfully fragrant, flowers small, white and almost continuously in bloom. Fine for cut flowers, used for single specimens, massing or for border, not very hardy and like some shade.

*Erica Carnea*, *Mediterranean Heath*. These lovely plants are fine in the frostless belts, but are a failure away from the coast, or warm moist air. The list is most alluring and the plants and bloom are very beautiful, but will not stand sun, heat or dry conditions, such as exist in the interior valleys and foot-



hill sections.

*Euonymus*. Most useful ornamental shrubs particularly valuable in landscaping for their beautiful foliage effect. They make fine hedges and are well adapted to hot and dry conditions, such as exist in interior valleys. While the bloom is inconspicuous the berries are seen in good effect in winter, blue black. The list in this class is large but one of the best is *Duc d'anjoa*, beautifully blotched, with pale gold, variegated mottled leaves and variegated golden, also silver leaved.

*Fremontia californica*. One of the finest native shrubs with rather small, thick leaves, bronze undersides. Flowers a dark rich yellow, petals thick and waxy, fine for single specimen and is greatly to be admired.

*Feijoa*, Pineapple Guava. This is the one hardy guava, makes a fine specimen with its small, waxy bloom, followed by the edible fruit which is very fragrant. Said to stand 12 degrees of frost and grown as far north as Oregon.

(MRS) KATE S. WILLIAMS.  
Santa Ysabel, Calif.

*Continued next month*

## CALIFORNIA BULB NOTES

*Continued from page 12*

One factor in the freesia situation is that I have seen very little mention of the fact that the growers are using more freesia each season which means that there is an increased demand. No doubt this is brought about largely by the fact that freesias have been found to be more profitable than a lot of bulbs that come from Holland.

As is usual, the crop of white calla bulbs is far below the demand. It takes two to three years to realize on white calla bulbs, which means that growers are not attracted to them like they are to crops which can be turned each year. Spanish iris and baby gladioli are in much better supply than last year. The sweet pea crop will necessarily be short but of high quality; both conditions are brought about by the fact that the growth of the vines is short. Since we had a large quantity of carry-over, small-size begonias and gloxinias to plant out this spring we anticipate no trouble in taking at least very good care of our orders for these items for this coming fall.

We have just completed a new greenhouse 23x280 feet which will make the seventh house that we have devoted to this branch of our business. Construction has just been started on an additional 7 acres of lath which will give us a total of 9½ acres of lathhouse, all of which is being devoted to tuberous rooted begonias.—From Southern Florist.

## THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

*Continued from page 5*

Anemone and Freesia bulbs right here in Southern California, there is no excuse for any one going short of these bulbs for which the planting season is just starting.

## THE FLOWER GARDEN

*Continued from page 5*

quick growing things with good success.

Have your freesias in by the end of September at the latest, if you wish blooms before the warm days in spring. Paper white narcissus are much better in the ground from now on, in fact all bulbs are losing vitality if kept out of the ground much after the fall season begins. Of course they will grow and bloom if put in late, but at the expense of the future bulbs. *Monbretias* often fail to bloom well after the first or second season. They are strong growers and multiply rapidly. They should be lifted and separated, and put back at once in a new location, selecting the largest and strongest bulbs for planting. If a new spot is not to be had lift, spade your ground deeply and put in ashes, a sprinkling of lime and at the bottom a good coating of bone meal. When making out your bulb list include some of the new hybrid *Watsonias*. They come in shades of red, pink, coral and mauve. We will, all of us who grow *Watsonias*, want to try at least the varieties "San Diego" and K. O. Sessions—and not to be too local in our trying out new things. "E. D. Sturtevant", should be attractive. Make out your orders and send in early as the supply of all bulbs is none too plentiful and where you have a few bulbs of any kind that is worthy, take good care of them and increase if possible. The government is doing everything possible to make us self-supporting, so to speak, as regards bulbs, and after 1925, all are forbidden import, so it behoves us to take care of what we have and grow in quantity all that do well with us. Many of the Cape bulbs, so-called, do unusually well with us and ought to be grown in quantities.

Still put in seeds of stocks, snapdragons, calendulas, wall flowers, scarlet flax, etc., in boxes and bring them along and where vacancies occur in the beds and borders you can easily fill in with them. This is a favorable time to plant seeds of the delphiniums, also columbines, pyrethrums and scabioso caucasica, all are popular hardy subjects.

Fall Flower Show September 8 and 9,  
Civic Auditorium, Balboa Park.

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